



BUCKET NO: 245716US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

:

HIRAI SHUJI

: EXAMINER: CHEN, S. S.

SERIAL NO: 10/716,536

:

RCE FILED: HERewith

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2852

FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS  
AND ASSOCIATED METHOD OF  
DETECTING DEVELOPER  
DETERIORATION

:

AMENDMENT FILED CONCURRENTLY WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 28, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.